

218 Lonepine Road  
Kalispell, Montana 59901

January 11, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I would like to go on record as supporting the proposed settlement that was reached in the antitrust lawsuit between the Department of Justice and the Microsoft Corporation. After three years of arguing and having our economy slide into a recession, the government finally realized that settling the issue would be the best move.

The settlement actually goes further than Microsoft wished, but the economy was more important than a few details in the agreement. I do not feel that it is fair that restrictions are being placed on Microsoft in areas that were never even an issue in the lawsuit. Microsoft has even agreed to document and disclose for use by its competitors various interfaces that are internal to Windows' operating system products - a first in an antitrust settlement.

The settlement that was reached is fair and reasonable, and I would like to go on record as supporting it. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Gerald Mason